

**Middletown Public Schools**

**Middletown, Rhode Island**

**November 15, 2007**

**7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting**

**MICHAEL S. PINTO CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Members Present: Michael F. Crowley, Jr., Chairman**

**Liana F. Fenton, Vice-Chair**

**Theresa M. Spengler**

**Member Absent: William Coogan**

**Edward K. Draper**

**Also Present: Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools**

**Catherine McLeish, Business Manager**

**Edward Collins, Director of Facilities**

**The regular meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Michael Crowley. Administrative staff members present were Steven Ruscito, Vincent Giuliano, Michael Mancieri, Stephen Ponte, and Linda Savastano. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING**

### **Middletown Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force Program**

**The Middletown Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force Program has renewed enthusiasm and energy under the leadership of task force member Lori Verderosa, Coordinator of the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force Program.**

**Ms. Verderosa, along with Ms. Nan Heroux, presented the plans for prevention programs in Middletown. The task force received a grant, Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPFSIG), for strategic health and human services – amounting to \$140,000 for each of the next three years, totaling \$420,000. The SPFSIG grants' intent is a data driven planning process that builds infrastructure in The Middletown Community to address substance abuse prevention issues.**

**A needs assessment will be completed. Ms. Verderosa will report back to the School Committee on the findings.**

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## **PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS**

- **AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK** – Proclamations were presented to school principals.
- **STUDENT AWARDS** – Student Awards were presented in the following categories:
  - o Newport Daily News Athletes of the Week

## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**No “Student Activities” for November 15, 2007**

## **INFORMATION**

**Mrs. Kraeger noted items of information in the School Committee Package:**

- **Mr. Ruscito submitted an update to NEASC,**
- **Town surplused a rescue wagon which is now being used in our maintenance department,**
- **Foods Nutrition Committee met on November 5th and,**
- **MRSA info was provided to district employees and parents.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Letter from Jerome Egan, requesting the School Committee commence contract negotiations with the Middletown Association of Auxiliary Personnel/NEARI/NEA.**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee receive the communication. Unanimous vote.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.**

**1000. Approval of Minutes of October 18, 2007 School Committee Meeting**

**1100. Approval of Financial Report, dated October 31, 2007, in the amount of \$1,870,715.50**

**1200. Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 12, 2007, in the amount of \$1,655.58**

**1210. Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 16, 2007, in the amount of \$517,007.01**

**1220. Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 19, 2007, in the amount of \$1,791.08**

**1230. Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 26, 2007, in the**

**amount of \$1,492.99**

**1240. Approval of Invoice Register, dated October 30, 2007, in the amount of \$467,530.10**

**1250. Approval of Invoice Register, dated November 2, 2007, in the amount of \$1,486.05**

**1300. Approval of Special Grants Register, dated October 16, 2007, in the amount of \$38,617.52**

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**1310. Approval of Special Grants Register, dated October 30, 2007 in the amount of \$118,398.47**

**1400. Superintendent's Recommendation on Personnel**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL**

### **APPOINTMENTS**

**John Hanos .4 Math Teacher ~ One Year Only, Middletown High School**

**Roger Guilmain .4 Science Teacher ~ One Year Only, Middletown High School**

**Dianne Beaulieu .4 Spanish Teacher ~ One Year Only, Middletown High School**

**Maria Daly Teacher Assistant - (Part-Time - 3 Hours), Forest Avenue School**

## **TRANSFERS**

**Stephen Tetzloff Custodian II (2nd Shift) Floater  
to Custodian I (2nd Shift), Gaudet**

**Patrick Cleary Custodial Foreperson Level II, Oliphant  
to Custodian II, Middletown High School**

**David Beebe Custodian II, Forest Avenue School  
to Custodial Foreperson Level II, Oliphant**

## **EXTENSION OF FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE ACT**

**Jaime Sheridan Grade Five Teacher, Gaudet Middle School  
For the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year**

## **MATERNITY LEAVE - ARTICLE XIV, C, OPTION #1 (NEA/Middletown)**

**Kristin MacLean English Teacher, Middletown High School  
Extend leave through January 21, 2008**

## **2007/08 WINTER COACHING APPOINTMENTS**

**Michael P. Clancey Boys' Varsity Basketball (until 1/7/08)**

**David G. MacGregor Boys' Assistant Varsity Basketball**

**Raleigh Brennan Boys' 6/7/8TH Grade Basketball**

**Justin Buffman Girls' Varsity Basketball (until 1/7/08)**

**Shane Fennessey Girls' Assistant Varsity Basketball (until 1/7/08)**

**Heidi Gauch Girls' 6/7/8TH Grade Basketball**

**Russell Forgue Varsity Wrestling**

**Richard Francis, Jr. Assistant Varsity Wrestling**

**Andrew Bulk 6/7/8TH Grade Wrestling**

**Theresa DiGiovanni Varsity Swim**

**Timothy Anderson Assistant Swim**

**Shannon Farrell Varsity Gymnastics**

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**Stephen Saunders Varsity Hockey**

**Jay Punsky Assistant Varsity Hockey**

**Sharon Thibeault Cheerleading**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**No "Action Items" for November 15, 2007**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **An Executive Summary of the Fielding Nair Report was reviewed in preparation for the Town Council/School Committee Workshop on November 20th at 6:30. Mr. Crowley wants to stress that this is a long range view of what we as a group see as the needs of educational facilities in Middletown based upon the educational requirement for of our students.**
  - o **Utilizing the buildings we have now, but realizing the need for replacing/updating these facilities.**
  - o **Middletown community was unanimous in drawing up conclusions and presenting this plan.**
  - o **The enrichment center being a community asset, not just for schools, but using our schools for public functions.**
  - o **Emphasize community access to all facilities.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Mr. Chris Collins' presented the Mobile Accountability Program (MAP) as a pilot program for the Middletown Public Schools.**

**This program will address:**

**&#61607; Child accountability and**

**&#61607; Utilization of Bus fleet & management**

**The program uses:**

**&#61607; RFID-radio frequency identification tags that students put**

**on their backpacks**

**The pilot program will begin on 2 buses at beginning of 2008 for 3-4 months; no cost to the school department.**

**First Student Bus Company has cooperated in this effort.**

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## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

### **• CURRICULUM –**

**o Gaudet Report Card – There is ongoing work with the Gaudet standards-based report card, including meetings with parents, ELA and Math teachers, and revising the parent guidebook. Mr. Giuliano, Mrs. Howard, and Mrs. Cicchitelli are facilitating these efforts.**

**o Science - The regional curriculum leaders met with EBEC to review the status of the KITES Kits being used for science instruction and the correlation of the topics with the new state science GSEs.**

**o MHS Course of Study – Mr. Tim Ryan has been meeting with content area personnel at Middletown High over the past several weeks to assist in developing the Program of Studies.**

**o MHS Site-based Council - The Site-based Council had its first meeting on November 6.**

- o **MHS Directors - As a result of the Director's presentation last month, we are working on releasing them from one class.**
- o **ESL/English Language Learners Program - A meeting was held on October 12, 2007 with the Literacy Teacher at Middletown High School and the ESL Teacher. The discussion focused on the needs of the secondary English Language Learner. Rosetta Stone, a language-based computer program will assist the ESL students. A meeting is set for November 30th with at the War College to address the new Middletown ESL students. Mrs. Cicchitelli has met with state to review the plans for the program.**

- **FINANCIAL –**

- o **There is a chance state aid will not be level funded; Catherine McLeish has prepared the 3050 projections of 2008-2009 through 2011-2012. We will start meeting with principals/staff to discuss the challenges facing the district. The goal is not to compromise the quality of education to our students.**

- **FACILITIES –**

- o **Last month a utilities bid process was complete. Many projects are going on in district. Boosters are working on the Press box and the Pop Warner storage project is underway.**

**MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Theresa Spengler. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.**

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## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

- **Mr. Crowley talked about the Proposed Regulations of the Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education Governing the Education of Children with Disabilities**

- **Mrs. Liana Fenton has attended Governor K-16 council meetings. At a meeting, discussion centered around workforce partnerships, students graduating from high school and going into workforce, and students at the post secondary level who were not completing their degree.**

**Mrs. Fenton also mentioned that the Physics First Program is working well. Mrs. Fenton met with the Economic Advisory Council for a STEM Council meeting regarding grants.**

**Mrs. Fenton met the new director of the Newport Area Career Tech Center, Karen Mellen. Currently, there are five career paths the center is now offering. Two concerns Mrs. Fenton has are: 1) is this right model for Newport County, and 2) the cost is high. She mentioned the inequity of career centers statewide: Davies is paid for by the State, all other Career Tech Centers depend on local funds. Her goal**

is to work at state level with the general assembly to make that more equitable.

- Mr. Crowley stated that RIASC began their quarterly meetings with the officers and Judge Flanders, chair of the Board of Regents.

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To go into Executive Session 42-46-5 (a) 1, 2,5,8,9 at 8:38 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Mr. Crowley announced that no votes were taken during Executive Session.

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Unanimous vote.

**ADJOURN FROM MEETING**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 10:25 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk